

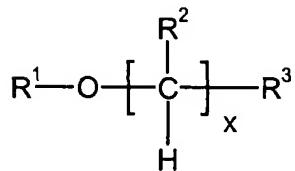
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION
SERIAL NO.:
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-16 (cancelled)

17. (new) A process for creating a clearing feeling in a pharyngeal cavity or a nasal cavity, which process comprises the step of:
administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a preparation comprising a rhinologically active substance with a formula:



wherein

x is 0 or 1,

R^1 denotes an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms,

R^2 denotes a methyl or ethyl group, and

R^3 denotes a monocyclic carbon system having 5, 6, 7 or 8 carbon atoms that can be unsubstituted or substituted with further alkyl groups having 1 to 4 carbon atoms or alkenyl groups having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, whereby said clearing feeling in said pharyngeal cavity or said nasal cavity is created.

18. (new) A process according to Claim 17, wherein
R¹ denotes a methyl or ethyl group and
R³ denotes a monocyclic carbon system having 6 or 7 carbon atoms that can be unsubstituted or substituted with further alkyl groups having 1 to 3 carbon atoms and/or alkenyl groups having 3 carbon atoms.

19. (new) A process according to Claim 17, wherein said rhinologically active substances are selected from the group consisting of l-menthyl methyl ether, d-menthyl methyl ether, dl-menthyl methyl ether, menthyl ethyl ether, menthyl propyl ether, menthyl isobutyl ether, isopulegyl methyl ether, 2-isopropylcyclohexyl methyl ether, 2-isopropylcyclohexyl ethyl ether, 3,3,5-trimethylcyclohexyl methyl ether, 1-(3,3-dimethyl-cyclohexyl)ethyl ethyl ether, 1-(3,3-dimethyl-cyclohexyl)ethyl propyl ether, and 1-(3,3-dimethyl-cyclohexyl)ethyl methyl ether.

20. (new) A process according to Claim 17, wherein said rhinologically active substance comprises 0.0001 to 10% by weight of said preparation.

21. (new) A process according to Claim 17, wherein said clearing feeling comprises a cooling, refreshing feeling.

22. (new) A process according to Claim 17, wherein said preparation is selected from the group consisting of: an oral care composition, chewing gum, a food product, a tobacco product, a pharmaceutical product and a nasal spray.

23. (new) A process Claim 22, wherein said oral care composition is selected from the group consisting of: toothpaste and mouthwash.

24. (new) A process for creating a clearing feeling in a pharyngeal cavity or a nasal cavity which comprises the step of administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a preparation comprising a rhinologically active substance comprised of acyclic ethers that are selected from the group consisting of isopulegyl methyl ether, 1-(3,3-dimethylcyclohexyl)ethyl ethyl ether, 1-(3,3-dimethylcyclohexyl)ethyl propyl ether and 1-(3,3-dimethylcyclohexyl)ethyl methyl ethyl, whereby said clearing feeling in said pharyngeal cavity or said nasal cavity is created.